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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 13

ENCOURAGEMENT OF UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Bossuyt, Mr. Boutkevitch, Ms. Chavez, Mrs. Daes,
Mr. Decaux, Mr. El-Hajjé, Mr. Fan, Mr. Fix Zamudio,
Mrs. Forero Ucros, Mr. Guissé, Mrs. Gwanmesia, Mr. Hatano,
Mr. Hakim, Mr. Khalil, Mr. Khan, Mr. Lindgren Alves, Mr. Maxim,
Ms. Palley, Ms. Warzazi and Mr. Yimer: draft resolution

Encouragement of universal acceptance of human rights instruments

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Recalling its resolution 1992/1 of 14 August 1992, in which it requested its Chairman to appoint one of its members to report to the Sub-Commission on the progress made in the universal acceptance of human rights instruments,

Bearing in mind steps taken in earlier years by the Sub-Commission to consider ways and means of encouraging Governments which had not yet done so to ratify or accede to international human rights instruments,

Considering that since 1979, the year when the Sub-Commission began systematically to address the issue of encouraging universal ratification of international human rights instruments, no substantive progress has been made in its attempt to convince Governments of the utility of the involvement of the United Nations in assisting them to ratify human rights instruments,

Taking note of the absence of any formal response from Member States to the invitations extended to them to offer clarification as to why they are unable to ratify these instruments,

Taking note also of the absence of advisory services on this issue provided by the Centre for Human Rights at the request of States, resulting from the continued lack of interest by States in the matter,

Noting with appreciation the extensive and continuous attempts to promote further ratifications undertaken by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights,

Reaffirming the importance of the ongoing informal consultations between these United Nations entities and Member States resulting from those promotional activities,

Bearing in mind the ongoing problems in the rationalization of its work, especially during its forty-sixth session,

1. Decides to discontinue consideration of this matter under a separate agenda item;

2. Also decides to take up these issues when they arise under the existing items of its agenda.